

Executive Director Report
March 27, 2008

Budget

- Invoices have been submitted to Commission member entities for member contributions to the Commission's budget for the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year. To date, approximately \$20,000 has been received (additional payments are being processed).
- Participated in Assembly Budget Sub-committee Hearing. The Department of Finance has recommended that the 2008-2009 Governor's Budget reflect reimbursements to the Commission's Budget from member contributions and from the Delta Advisory Planning Council Fund for a total budgetary enhancement of \$128,000 for FY 08-09 to reflect a total budget allocation of \$536,000 for FY 08-09 (increased from \$477,000 in FY 07-08).
- Contract is in final stage of processing for awarded grant funding for Lower Yolo Bypass Collaborative (\$14,750 to DPC).
- Contract is in final stage of processing for awarded grant funding for Working Landscapes projects (\$45,000 to DPC).
- Submitted application for Transportation Planning Grant in the amount of \$300,000 for planning of Delta Trail.
- Prepared grant application to Coastal Conservancy in the amount of \$320,000 for Delta Trail Planning (to be submitted following Commission authorization).
- Discussions are underway for possible Resource Agency funding support for Management Plan update.

Administration/Staffing

Status of Suzanne Butterfield serving as Deputy Director of Special Projects has changed to retired annuitant.

Legislation

The following legislation relevant to the Delta is being monitored by staff:

AB 1806 (Wolk) Fish and Wildlife Emergency Rescue;
AB 2501 (Wolk) Water Planning;
AB 2502 (Wolk) Delta Ecological Restoration and Recreation Areas;
AB 2503 (Wolk) Delta Protection Commission Alternates (staff analysis – support);
AB 2504 (DeSaulnier) Delta Tourism and Marketing Plan (staff analysis – neutral);
AB 2913 (Salas) Delta Conservancy (staff analysis – neutral);

SB 27 (Simitian) Delta Clean Drinking Water, Water Supply Security, and Environmental Improvement Act of 2008;
SB 1102 (Machado) Bay Delta Authority; and
SB 1108 (Machado) Delta Conservancy Program (staff analysis – neutral).

Projects/Facilitation

- Delta Emergency Planning and Response process co-facilitated by OES and DPC with support from Center for Collaborative Policy is moving forward with stakeholder interviews. Met with Executive Director of Public Utilities Commission to discuss avenues for coordination and involvement. Provided update to County Emergency Planning Managers Team to assure coordination.
- Attended Senate Natural Resources Committee Hearing on Governor's Proposed Actions for a Comprehensive Solution in the Delta. Met with Director, Office of Planning and Research to discuss coordination on tasks cited in the letter for OPR and DPC relative to management plan update and development of Land Use Guidelines.
- Participating in planning of Lower Bypass Collaborative process kick-off meeting and tour, including identification of stakeholders to be invited.
- Continuing to facilitate meetings of the Delta Agricultural Conservation Easement Group where progress is being made toward defining an effective and feasible agricultural easement program.
- Participated in planning and facilitation of Delta Resources Conservation and Development Council meetings with a focus on seeking federal status and funding support.
- Participated in facilitation of Delta Workshop on the State Water Plan Update.
- Continuing to participate in the weekly meetings of the Delta Vision Planning Team. Serve as Team Co-Lead of Delta Vision Delta As a Place Work Plan Group.
- Assisted in facilitation of habitat conservation program meeting between Undersecretary for Resources and Delta County Habitat Conservation Plan Managers.
- Researching National Heritage Corridor Concept as tool for branding Delta legacy towns/corridor.
- Participated in Department of Conservation workshop on collaborative efforts to preserve California farmland.

- Participating in Resource Agency biweekly meetings on climate change.

Public Affairs/Outreach

- Made a presentation to the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors about projects and processes underway in the Delta, why local governments should be involved, and avenues for communication and input.
- Made a presentation to the San Joaquin County Farm Bureau relative to Delta Conservancy legislation proposals.
- Facilitated panel on Delta as a Place before the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force.
- Participated in Delta Vision Workshop in Suisun City as a panel member.
- Participated in League of California Cities Conference as a panel member.
- Met with Director of California Conservation Corps to discuss joint project opportunities (Delta Trail; Delta Emergency Planning and Response).
- Met with Deputy Director of California Travel and Tourism Commission to discuss opportunities for Delta branding and outreach as called for in proposed legislation (AB 2504).
- Participated in Resources Agency Department Head meetings.
- Participated in Resources Agency PIO Team meetings.